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F. Special programme interests

In 1991, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $2.4 million or 1.05 per cent of total programme allocations, compared to $1.8 million or 1.1 per cent of expenditures in 1990. During the period 1969-1991, UNFPA assistance in this area totalled $18.7 million or 0.9 per cent of total assistance.

1. Youth

205. During 1991, UNFPA took steps to ensure the effective implementation of its policy on youth, which the Executive Director had articulated at the 10th Anniversary Conference of the Center for Population Options in September 1990. Such efforts culminated in a consultation on youth at UNFPA headquarters on 10-11 October, at which 21 experts discussed what activities had worked and what had not, and suggested ways that youth activities could be strengthened.

206. The experts called upon all UNFPA staff, in the field and at headquarters, to be responsive to the needs of youth in their work. They recommended that UNFPA actively promote awareness among government officials of the importance of formulating national policies concerning reproductive health of youth and of allocating resources accordingly. They also agreed that UNFPA field staff were in a strategic position to organize national-level meetings to bring together policy makers, researchers, programmers, young people, and other concerned parties, to see how best they can work together.

207. The experts further recommended that all PRSD missions deal with the needs of youth so as to ensure that such needs are taken into account during the formulation of country programmes. They suggested various ways to close the gap between researchers and programmers, and discussed alternative channels for reaching youth through IEC activities and ways to make MCH/FP services more accessible to youth. They also recommended that UNFPA increase its support for NGOs at the local level. Finally, the experts recommended that adequate attention be given to youth concerns in the preparations for and the discussions at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development.

208. The year also saw the conclusion of several interregional youth projects, all of which sought a high degree of participation by young people themselves. A WHO-executed project generated a number of methodologies that are being used to improve the reproductive health of adolescents. An FAO-executed project developed approaches to integrate population education into rural youth programmes, which are to be refined and adapted to different country situations.

209. IPPF is completing an experimental project in Colombia, Egypt, Jamaica, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Sri Lanka in which youths work directly with other youths, through a network of non-governmental youth organizations, to identify and address their reproductive health needs. The evidence thus far suggests that such an approach can be effective, provided a suitable lead NGO at the country level is selected, a high level of activity is sustained, and adequate financial and technical support and monitoring is provided by the UNFPA local office.

210. The year also saw the intensification of youth-related activities at the country level. For example, UNFPA funded a study on attitudes and practices regarding pre-marital sex among adolescents in Ghana, the results of which were discussed at a national workshop to develop an adolescent reproductive health strategy. The UNFPA office is working closely with the Government to ensure that the study's findings are being taken

into account in the UNFPA country programme, which was approved by the Governing Council in 1990. Moreover, a number of PRSD exercises, such as those for Brazil and Egypt, gave priority to youth concerns.

2. The question of ageing

211. As in previous years, during 1991 UNFPA assistance continued to focus on research, training and promotion of awareness about the process of population ageing and its social and economic implications. UNFPA-supported activities in this area were carried out mainly at the global and regional levels by United Nations agencies and organizations and by international NGOs. China was the only country in which UNFPA had such projects at the country level.

212. Field work in four selected countries (Chile, Dominican Republic, Sri Lanka and Thailand) of a research project on the implications for development of population ageing, executed by the United Nations Office at Vienna, was successfully completed. The project has been extended through 1992 in order to allow for the complete analysis and exploitation of the findings. Also at the global level, CICRED, in cooperation with the International Institute on Aging in Malta, completed and published monographs on population ageing in Australia, China and Finland.

213. Activities at the regional level have concentrated on Europe and Asia. The Economic Commission for Europe completed a wide study on the economic and social consequences of changing population structures, giving special attention to the effects of ageing on the labour force and employment patterns as well as on public-sector spending. Two volumes are ready to be published. In the case of Asia, ESCAP published and disseminated a set of four case studies on ageing that had been conducted in China, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

214. At the country level, two research projects were initiated in China in 1991. The first is a multi-dimensional longitudinal study of ageing in Beijing, executed by the Centre for Aging Studies of Flinders University, Australia. The second is a research study on the aged, executed by the International Institute on Aging in Malta. The findings are to be used in policy formulation.

215. During 1991, UNFPA was actively involved in promoting activities to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the Vienna International Plan of Action on Aging in 1992. In this context, UNFPA has agreed to co-sponsor the International Conference on Aging being organized by San Diego State University, California, and to provide funding to enable population experts from developing countries to participate in the conference. Moreover, in observance of the United Nations International Day for the Elderly on 1 October 1991, the Fund organized at UNFPA headquarters a Symposium on Population Ageing: An Emerging Challenge, which was attended by experts from various United Nations entities.

3. HIV/AIDS

216. During 1991, UNFPA continued to strengthen its activities in the field of AIDS prevention and control. In March, the Fund prepared and distributed a compilation of such activities in 32 countries. UNFPA is currently in the process of revising this AIDS update, collecting a further round of information from headquarters and field offices. The revised update, to be issued in early 1992, will provide specific information on such activities as the integration of AIDS prevention into MCH/FP service delivery programmes, supply of condoms, counselling, AIDS awareness campaigns, AIDS training for MCH/FP service providers and AIDS education in schools.

217. Preliminary analysis indicates substantial support for condoms as a preventative measure in such countries as Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Sierra Leone and Zimbabwe, as well as for school health education activities on HIV infection and AIDS in China, India, Mali, Mexico, Niger, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka and the United Republic of Tanzania. A component on AIDS has been integrated into training programmes for health service providers in Afghanistan, Brazil, Sierra Leone, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Zimbabwe and in 12 countries in the Pacific. In all these activities, UNFPA's work is guided by the strategy set forth by the WHO/GPA and is carried out in close collaboration with the national AIDS programme, as well as with other multilateral and bilateral agencies, particularly UNDP, UNICEF, and the World Bank. It appears, however, that there is still a need in several countries in all regions of the world to promote and support AIDS awareness activities in view of continuing misperceptions about the disease and its impact on public health.

218. In addition to these country-level activities, UNFPA prepared an information paper on AIDS for the thirty-eighth session of the Governing Council in June 1991. The paper traced the history and extent of UNFPA support for AIDS prevention since the formulation of the Fund's policy guidelines in 1987. The Governing Council noted UNFPA's efforts to integrate HIV/AIDS prevention activities in MCH/FP programmes and encouraged the Fund to continue to work in close cooperation with WHO and other relevant agencies (decision 91/35 A, para. 12).

219. The Fund's in-depth studies on contraceptive requirements and logistics management needs in developing countries in the 1990s, discussed in more detail in paras. 162-168, will devote special attention to estimating condom requirements for AIDS-prevention activities. The implementation of these studies is being overseen by an informal interagency working group chaired by UNFPA. The WHO/GPA participates in this group and will be closely involved in this aspect of the studies in appropriate countries. In addition, UNFPA has provided technical and financial assistance to WHO for the preparation of two sets of guidelines on AIDS prevention for MCH/FP programme managers. The first concerns AIDS and family planning; the second, AIDS and maternal and child health. Both sets of guidelines have been widely circulated to health ministries, field offices, and many other interested international, national, and non-governmental agencies and organizations.

220. At the country level, UNFPA again actively participated in donor meetings for national AIDS prevention and control programmes. At the global level, UNFPA continued to coordinate its activities with other organizations and agencies through its active involvement in international meetings, seminars and fora, including regular attendance at the meetings of the United Nations Steering Committee on AIDS, the Inter-Agency Advisory Group on AIDS, the Global Programme on AIDS Management Committee and the JCGP working group on HIV infection.

4. Population and the environment

221. In the area of population and the environment, UNFPA focused on building national capacity through policy analysis and research, awareness creation and training. UNFPA funded several policy analysis and research projects aimed at improving the understanding of the interrelationship between population and the environment, as well as translating that understanding into appropriate planning methodologies to integrate population factors into planning for sustainable development.

222. The Fund undertook a number of initiatives as a contribution towards preparations for the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). For example, the Fund produced

a book, Population, Resources and the Environment: The Critical Challenges, and a booklet, Population and the Environment: The Challenges Ahead, to stimulate and promote discussion on the important links between population, resources and the environment. The Fund also organized an expert group meeting at UNFPA headquarters on population and the environment and seconded a UNFPA staff member to the UNCED Secretariat in Geneva to assure consideration of the linkages between environmental and population factors in UNCED preparatory meetings.

223. Other major ongoing UNFPA-supported activities include a project with the Austrian-based International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the University of Mauritius to develop methodologies to examine the linkages between population, technology and environmental factors in the national development of Mauritius. This project seeks to develop a planning methodology that can be shared with other countries, as well as be used to create greater awareness and enhance training among planners.

224. The World Conservation Union (IUCN), also through a UNFPA-supported project, is developing a methodological guidebook for use in devising national conservation strategies. The guidebook seeks to explain the linkages between population variables and various productive and social sectors of the economy as well as between the various sectors of the economy themselves. Another project with the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) seeks to assess interrelationships between women, population and the environment and to identify policy and planning interventions to enhance understanding of those relationships.

225. A UNFPA-initiated project undertaken in collaboration with IIASA and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) will examine the vicious cycle of rapid population growth, poverty and environmental degradation especially in ecologically endangered zones in the poorest countries. Priority focal points will include forested uplands, coastal fishing communities, lowland areas with smallholders of agricultural land, arid zone grazing areas, tropical forests threatened by slash-and-burn agriculture, and urban slums.

226. The Fund is also emphasizing integrated population and development planning in the context of environmental outcomes and ecosystems in country projects in Kenya, Nepal and the Philippines.

227. UNFPA is supporting several awareness-creation activities that involve organizing seminars and training for development planners and policy makers and integrating population and environment education into formal and nonformal sectors. A major project with UNESCO seeks to integrate population and environmental factors in the school system in Morocco.

III. PROMOTION OF AWARENESS AND REVIEW OF OTHER ASPECTS OF THE UNFPA PROGRAMME

A. Promotion of awareness and exchange of information

228. World Population Day was again observed on 11 July throughout the world with a wide range of activities, testifying to the enthusiasm with which Governments and NGOs have adopted the Day as their own. The Day was marked by special events of all kinds, from presidential addresses to local soccer matches; by special media coverage of news conferences and other media events; by musical and artistic events; and activities for special groups from academics and parliamentarians to professional groups and young people.

CNN again mounted a worldwide special broadcast for World Population Day, a two-hour programme featuring an interview with the Executive Director.

229. UNFPA encouraged World Population Day activities by issuing a special brochure and a specially-designed poster. A special video was again produced. For the first time, UNFPA produced a small portable exhibit and distributed it to all field offices.

230. The publication Population Issues: A Briefing Kit was updated for the Day and distributed to all UNFPA field staff, as well as to Governments, the many non-governmental and inter-governmental organizations with which UNFPA works, other United Nations agencies, missions to the United Nations, United Nations Information Centres, and UNFPA headquarters staff. The kit covers such issues as global population growth, demographic trends by region, urbanization, population and environment, family planning, women, and awareness creation.

Publications and audio-visual aids

231. The 1991 State of World Population report, entitled "Choice or Chance", dealt with family planning -- what has been achieved, what will be needed to meet the targets of the Amsterdam Declaration and why it is so important that the targets are met.

232. The report was introduced at media seminars in Bonn and Harare, and was launched by the Executive Director in London. For the first time, the Fund's senior staff were deployed to introduce the report at special press conferences in media centres around the world.

233. The report was received with acclaim by the media, parliamentarians, policy makers and the public, and was mentioned with approval by several countries during the thirty-eighth session of the Governing Council. The Council noted its appreciation of the report in decision 91/35 A.

234. During 1991, UNFPA assessed the future of its monthly newsletter Population and the quarterly Populi in the light of available new technology and the needs of the 1990s. Work was begun on planning a new publication to take the place of both Populi and Population in 1992. UNFPA also published its regular Inventory of Population Projects in Developing Countries Around the World 1989/1990 and the triennial Guide to Sources of International Population Assistance.

235. The Governing Council called upon the Fund to increase its efforts to reinforce information and education programmes in support of family planning and to continue to increase awareness through its public information activities in both developed and developing countries on issues relating to population and development.

236. The Fund took part in the annual United Nations Information Fair in New York, reaching about 10,000 visitors with information on population issues and on activities of UNFPA during the event's two weeks.

Media relations

237. The Fund had a highly successful year in world media. Apart from the coverage of World Population Day and the State of World Population report, there was very wide and sympathetic coverage of population issues and the Fund itself. An excellent example was CBS television in the United States, which mounted a

major investigation of population issues on its flagship programme *60 Minutes*. With UNCED approaching, population was receiving increasing share of attention as an issue to be discussed in the context of the environment.

Global Population Assistance Report, 1982-1989

238. In February 1991, UNFPA produced the third annual Global Population Assistance Report, covering the years 1982-1989. The first report, published in 1988, covered 1982-1985; the second report, covering the years 1982-1988, provided estimates of total assistance from 1952 through 1988. As with previous editions, the 1991 report includes information on the total funds for international population assistance provided by donors (including developed countries, multilateral agencies, and private foundations) and that received by developing countries and other users. It provides data on the sources of funds, the channels through which the funds flow, and the amounts received by the more than 120 developing countries and other categories of users. The report shows that since the early 1970s, the level of international population assistance, as measured in real terms, has remained relatively unchanged. The report is accompanied by an executive summary highlighting the past performance and future needs of international population assistance.

United Nations Population Award

239. In June, Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar presented the 1991 United Nations Population Award to Julia J. Henderson, a prominent American population and social development leader long associated with the United Nations and IPPF, and to CEPAR (Centro de Estudios de Poblacion y Paternidad Responsable), a non-governmental organization in Ecuador. The 1991 laureates of the award, presented annually by the United Nations to individuals and/or institutions making the most outstanding contribution to increasing the awareness of population problems and to their solution, were announced in February by the Chairman of the Committee of the United Nations Population Award. The Committee, which is selected by ECOSOC for a three-year term, is composed of representatives from Belarus, Ecuador, India, Japan, Mauritius, Mexico, Pakistan, Rwanda, Togo and Turkey.

Rafael M. Salas Memorial Lecture

240. The third memorial lecture in this series, entitled "A Global Population Policy to Advance Human Development in the 21st Century", was delivered in December by Mr. Robert S. McNamara, the President of the World Bank from 1968 to 1981. Mr. McNamara reiterated his view, espoused in his first speech as World Bank President in 1968, that "the rapid growth of population is one of the greatest barriers to economic growth and social well-being". He then focused on the relationship between population, consumption and environmental damage and examined the impact of population growth on economic development and the alleviation of poverty. Emphasizing the urgency of acting now, Mr. McNamara put forth a programme to accelerate reductions in fertility rates. Such a programme had to focus on (a) increasing the pace of economic and social advance, with particular emphasis on enhancing the status of women and on reducing infant mortality; and (b) introducing or expanding comprehensive family planning programmes. He concluded by outlining the financial requirements for such a programme and emphasizing the steps needed to mobilize a massive global effort during the 1990s to expand family planning services.

B. Policy and programme coordination

241. In 1991, UNFPA continued to give highest priority to coordination and collaboration with its partner organizations in the United Nations system. The Fund pursued various policy initiatives at the headquarters level and placed considerable emphasis on sustaining and expanding collaboration in programme activities. As requested by the Governing Council (decision 90/35 A), the Fund gave special attention to improving coordination with UNICEF and sought to expand cooperation with the World Bank and NGOs.

242. Coordination is a critical part of the UNFPA mandate, as one of its aims and purposes is to promote coordination and collaboration in population planning and programming (ECOSOC resolution 1763 (LIV) of May 1973). Fully cognizant of the importance of collaboration, the Fund has, over the past few years, redefined its programming approach with the specific purpose of better contributing to the development of comprehensive and well-coordinated population programmes. The UNFPA PRSD exercises provide an overall analytical framework for all population inputs in a country, and help ensure a coordinated approach to such activities.

243. Responsibility for coordination rests with the Government concerned. The role of UNFPA is to help strengthen a country's capacity to fulfil that responsibility upon request. The Fund also places great importance on the role of the Resident Coordinator.

244. In its efforts to extend coordination within its policy and programme work, UNFPA has recognized that a number of constraints must be realistically addressed. These include differences among agencies in terms of policies and procedures as well as of programming cycles, and the limitations posed by the small size of UNFPA field office staffing levels. Sustained efforts are required to further streamline and harmonize policies, rules and procedures throughout the United Nations system in order to make collaboration a regular and integral part of programming.

245. Overall, there is evidence of increasing collaboration in programming at the field level in response to the continued emphasis the Fund has been placing on coordination. Programming cycles of UNFPA assistance have been synchronized with those of other agencies and organizations, notably UNDP and UNICEF, in an expanding number of cases. These same organizations have fostered collaboration in each others' programming and programme development exercises. For example, UNFPA has participated in UNDP's country programme formulation, UNICEF's situation analyses, and IFAD's project formulation, among others. The Fund has also expanded coordination with United Nations organizations, NGOs and bilateral donors through the PRSD exercise. At the country level, UNFPA field offices have encouraged pertinent organizations to participate in Project Appraisal Committees (PACs) in order to increase project complementarities.

246. In accord with Governing Council decision 90/35, UNFPA and UNICEF have expanded collaboration at headquarters as well as in the field. For example, a number of UNFPA field offices -- working together with UNICEF, and in consultation with WHO and some other organizations, including the World Bank -- conducted a special study of how to strengthen collaboration. The review showed that UNFPA and UNICEF are engaged in a number of collaborative programming activities in the field, particularly in such areas as MCH/FP, information and education, and women in development. A joint UNICEF-UNFPA report on such collaborative programming activities is being presented to the Governing Council this year in document DP/1992/28.

247. UNFPA and UNICEF have agreed to broaden this cooperation and to regularize efforts to enhance coordination within their respective programming processes. As needed, the two organizations will review their policies and procedures to remove obstacles to collaboration. A number of the proposed UNFPA country programmes being submitted to the Council this year reflect increased collaboration with UNICEF. Moreover, collaborative programme consultations are yielding positive results in a number of countries, including Bangladesh, Burundi, China, India, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen.

248. In the case of MCH/FP, there is increasing complementarity and joint support for integrated programmes. For example, in Bangladesh, WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA have combined efforts through a series of actions aimed at delaying marriage, delaying first births and promoting better spacing of pregnancies. In several countries -- including Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, China and Niger -- UNICEF and UNFPA, and others, provide complementary support for the national MCH/FP programme. There is also increasing collaboration in the context of support to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality and increase the use of family planning via the Safe Motherhood initiative in such countries as Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Mongolia, the Philippines, Senegal and the United Republic of Tanzania.

249. Field-level collaboration in the area of MCH/FP has been strengthened as a result of, inter alia, the joint letter that the executive heads of WHO, UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA circulated to all staff of these organizations in early 1991. The letter underscored the organizations' common goals in this area and called for better coordination so as to decrease the incidence of multiple approaches and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of development aid.

250. During the course of the year, UNFPA stepped up its consultations with all its partners within the United Nations system, including, inter alia, the United Nations and its regional commissions, the ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO, the World Bank, UNICEF and UNDP. In the context of UNFPA successor support cost arrangements, the coordination of population activities will be facilitated, since collaboration and coordination are among the specific aims and concerns of this new arrangement. The setting up of this system has included extensive discussion with all parties concerned. (See, e.g., the Report on proposed UNFPA successor arrangements for agency support costs -- document DP/1991/35, as well as the progress report on such arrangements being submitted to the Council at its thirty-ninth session -- document DP/1992/30.)

251. UNFPA continued its close relations with the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Co-operation (DIEC) and once again played an active role in the proceedings of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC) chaired by the Secretary-General, and in numerous committees of the ACC's subsidiary machinery. Partly as a result of this, the linkages between population and socio-economic concerns and developments were placed in considerably sharper relief than heretofore in numerous United Nations system-wide reports. As reported in paragraph 157, UNFPA hosted a successful symposium on "Nutrition and Population", which preceded the February meeting of the ACC Sub-Committee on Nutrition and which produced a statement that was agreed upon by both the ACC/SCN and UNFPA.

252. UNFPA has intensified consultations at headquarters and at the regional level, as well as at the country level, with the World Bank and with the regional financial institutions. Following a visit by the Executive Director to the World Bank in early 1991, a number of in-depth policy and programme meetings have taken place, including those between the UNFPA Geographical Divisions and their respective counterparts at the World Bank.

253. UNFPA has also sought to expand collaboration with a number of other partners, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), IFAD, as well as selected NGOs, particularly IPPF. The Fund participates actively in IPPF's two international advisory bodies, the International Medical Advisory Panel and the International Programme Advisory Panel. In trying to meet the enormous challenges in the MCH/FP field in the 1990s, UNFPA has worked with IPPF and others to promote cooperation among and between organizations in the government, non-governmental and private sectors. Through its year-long special assessment of contraceptive requirements in developing countries (see document DP/1991/34), the Fund has facilitated exchange and coordination in the critical area of contraceptive supplies and logistics.

254. UNFPA has placed special emphasis on participating in the preparation of UNCED and in furthering the understanding of the complex relationships between population, the environment and development. For example, in March 1991, the Fund sponsored a meeting at UNFPA to discuss population and the environment. It later related the concerns of that meeting to the UNCED Preparatory Committee in Geneva in August. In cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), UNDP, the World Bank, IUCN and a number of other organizations, UNFPA has also promoted programme activities and research in this priority area at the country level.

255. UNFPA continued to participate actively in the work of the JCGP. Two JCGP subgroups, women in development and Africa, have been chaired by UNFPA. The women-in-development subgroup was particularly active in organizing a training seminar in Africa for JCGP field staff as well as initiating various activities. The Fund has been closely involved with the JCGP in its work to harmonize programming, participating in efforts to reach a common understanding of programming terminologies, of national execution, and of the programme approach, and to synchronize programme cycles with those of UNDP and UNICEF in conjunction with government planning cycles, whenever feasible. UNFPA has also participated in JCGP discussions with the World Bank and the IMF on a JCGP policy response to structural adjustment policies, as well as in the formulation of a JCGP strategy to promote operational collaboration in the area of poverty alleviation and human development in six selected countries. In administrative matters, the Fund has supported the work of the JCGP in streamlining common services and premises in the field and in examining relevant personnel and training policies.

C. Staff training and development

256. UNFPA's staff training and development programme for 1991, in keeping with the Fund's staff training and development policy and its targets and challenges for the 1990s, was aligned to emphasize quality programming and enhanced substantive knowledge.

257. UNFPA's commitment to interagency coordination in field management was supported by staff training and development activities, including the participation of UNFPA Country Directors in a series of ILO-organized workshops entitled "Workshops on the Management of Field Coordination for Senior United Nations System Representatives". Their aim was to strengthen the concept and role of the United Nations development team at the country level and to make the Resident Coordinator system more effective in supporting national development efforts. UNFPA not only provided support to these workshops but was also instrumental in raising the awareness of senior-level United Nations Representatives and Resident Coordinators in the field as to the importance of population factors in the development process.

258. During 1991, nine field staff members participated in a JCGP/women-in-development training seminar for senior-level field staff in francophone Africa, held in Yaoundé, Cameroon. In addition, six headquarters staff attended a workshop series on women, gender and development, which was organized by UNDP. The Fund also made preparations to develop a training curriculum for a comprehensive women, population and development training programme, to be designed in conjunction with training specialists of the Netherlands's Royal Tropical Institute.

259. The UNFPA training programme continued to focus on improving management and supervisory skills, strengthening programme appraisal, and enhancing programme monitoring and evaluation. The Fund organized video-based training sessions relating to managerial practices, performance appraisal skills, and communication skills as support and follow-up to the new staff Performance Appraisal Review (PAR) system, which took effect as of 1 January 1991. A total of 166 headquarters staff attended the sessions, which aimed to augment prior staff training knowledge and skills with tools for immediate and practical application within their organizational units.

260. Another major activity during the year was the preparation of field office training plans and requests, with nearly all UNFPA field offices submitting such plans to headquarters for review and approval. Approximately 110 training requests from various field offices were reviewed in consultation with the respective Geographical Divisions or referred to the Steering Committee on Staff Training and Development for approval and follow-up action. Decentralization of the training function to the line-manager level is being pursued to ensure that training is not something that happens in isolation. Skills and knowledge gained in training need to be applied and practised before full competency is realized. Thus, using the new performance appraisal review system, managers will define the training or system gaps, specify possible solutions, participate in the learning process and ensure application of the new skills and knowledge acquired.

261. The Fund continued to expand its use of workshops to train and brief several levels of field and headquarters staff on a wide range of topics relating to the substance of UNFPA programmes. Topics covered included programme management training; finance, accounting and administration; personnel policies and procedures; and basic population indicators, among others. The workshops emphasized UNFPA's goals, mandate, organizational policies and procedures relating to programme and project planning, appraisal, monitoring and evaluation, as well as the role and purpose of field staff in relation to UNFPA's work. Four Training of Trainers Workshops were held for headquarters staff using an ILO expert on population and development and a communications specialist.

262. The Fund's staff training and development programme also provided orientation training for UNDP Resident Representatives in their capacity as UNFPA Representatives, following the in-depth briefing module which outlines UNFPA's mandate, organizational policy and programme and operational procedures within an interrelated framework.

263. UNFPA continued to organize training in various aspects of electronic data processing. These included, inter alia, word processing, data management and retrieval, and graphics for Professional and General Service staff. Over two-thirds of both headquarters and field staff members were trained in the use of various softwares, e.g., Wordperfect, Lotus 1-2-3, dBase III, Harvard Graphics, etc., and in the management of the personal computer local area network (PC-LAN).

264. UNFPA also supported attendance by all UNFPA Junior Professional Officers (JPOs) at the Induction Course on Programme, Policy and Operations organized by UNDP. Parallel in-depth briefings for

the JPOs about UNFPA's programme drew on the Fund's relevant Geographical Divisions. Additionally, to ensure the inclusion of population issues in UNDP's Management Training Programme (MTP), UNFPA helped develop the course content and served as a resource for incorporating population into the MTP's development curriculum.

D. Evaluation of UNFPA programmes and projects

265. In the past, evaluation activities carried out by the Fund were by and large organized and conducted by the Evaluation Branch. Over the past few years, however, the responsibility for country programme and individual project evaluations has shifted to other entities within and outside the Fund, including UNFPA's Geographical Divisions, its field offices, as well as project management and executing agencies, among others. The shift first came as part of the Fund's efforts to place increased emphasis on monitoring and evaluation as an integral component of its programming process. The Governing Council welcomed this increased emphasis, "in particular the shift in the focus of independent, in-depth evaluations from individual projects to country and intercountry programmes and to technical areas and issues in a global comparative perspective" (decision 88/34 A, para. 7). The introduction in 1989 of the PRSD exercise, combining needs assessment, country programme evaluation and strategy development, brought about a further shift in the focus of UNFPA country programme evaluations, which were thereafter to be carried out as an integral part of the PRSD exercise rather than as a separate undertaking. A major aim of such developments was to ensure not only that evaluation would be taken into account in all phases of the programme cycle, but also that evaluation results would be fed directly into programme formulation.

266. As a result of these developments and given the multiplicity of actors involved, the number of evaluations carried out by the Fund have considerably increased over the past few years. Such evaluations range in scope from self-evaluations conducted by project management to large-scale evaluations carried out by a team of independent experts; they also range in the depth and intensity of analysis, depending on the circumstances of each case. In 1991, such independent, in-depth evaluations covered the WHO/Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) programme, the UNDTCD global programme in Africa and Asia, as well as WHO/PAHO and WHO/South East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) programmes. These evaluations are the main focus of this section of the report. (For a more detailed review of the Fund's evaluation activities in 1990-1991, see document DP/1992/25.)

Programme evaluation results

267. WPRO regional programme (Mission Jan. - Feb. 1991). The mission found the collaboration between UNFPA and WPRO in MCH/FP to have been beneficial not only to the programmes of both agencies but also to the various countries in the Western Pacific region. This collaboration had contributed, over the years, to a continuing improvement in the health of women and children in the region. However, the improvement had been uneven among countries, in terms of service coverage and content. The mission therefore emphasized the need for both agencies to continue to further strengthen their long-standing collaboration.

268. The mission observed that during the period under review (1985-1989), the MCH/FP regional advisory team of WPRO was seldom at full strength, primarily due to restrictions on recruitment imposed by the WHO quota system. This situation limited the effectiveness of the backstopping provided by the regional team, even though a number of WPRO regular technical staff and short-term consultants were used to fill the gaps. In addition to country-level visits being infrequent, individual team members often did little to inform country

officials of their status as members of the special MCH/FP advisory team set up by UNFPA for the purpose of providing technical backstopping to countries. The mission felt that enhanced awareness of the existence of the team would likely promote further use of its services, in particular in providing broader national-level technical support, an area in which the team had made only a limited contribution.

269. The MCH/FP advisory team did make a notable contribution towards raising awareness throughout the region about Safe Motherhood by advocating and providing technical support for the adoption by the region's country representatives of the resolution on "National Maternal and Child Health Policies and Strategies" at the thirty-ninth session of the WHO Regional Committee for Western Pacific. Even though it was at less than full strength at the time, the regional team played an important role in creating awareness at the country level about the problems of Safe Motherhood by preparing background documentation for the session and generating support for and drafting the resolution.

270. A number of project proposals formulated with WPRO's assistance were found to have been inadequately designed: they either did not take the absorptive capacity of the concerned Governments adequately into account, had vague and unquantified objectives, did not conform to the UNFPA project format or did not provide proper justification for the UNFPA input. In some other instances, project objectives and strategies remained more or less identical through different phases, thus suggesting that past experience and achievements had not been taken sufficiently into account. The mission emphasized the need for WPRO project staff and outside consultants to become more familiar with UNFPA project formulation guidelines when preparing project proposals.

271. Even though all country projects under review had placed a strong emphasis on training as a vehicle for shaping attitudes, enhancing skills and improving the quality of MCH/FP care, the mission expressed concern that none of the projects had built-in mechanisms to evaluate the effectiveness of such training activities, even in such countries as Papua New Guinea, where the effectiveness of the extensive training carried out over the years is known to have been limited at best.

272. The mission found that in a number of countries, both maternal and child health and family planning services were provided by the same staff at health centres. However, some countries had separate administrative structures for each type of services, and this impeded the integration of the two components and hindered the promotion and distribution of contraceptives. This was particularly the case in some South Pacific countries where overall use of MCH/FP services was found to be low.

273. Evaluation of UNDTCD in Africa (Mission Feb. - March 1991). The evaluation of UNDTCD-executed projects in sub-Saharan Africa covered two demographic training and research projects in Malawi and Mozambique, one population and development project in Niger, one census project in Cameroon and the interregional project on demographic software.

274. In the area of demographic training and research, the mission found that, with only one exception, UNDTCD selected well-qualified international project personnel. Although planned activities were too broad and too varied to permit a more rigorous implementation of the projects, the sum of the various initiatives undertaken undoubtedly promoted the overall objectives of raising awareness of population issues, particularly among students and academics, and improving national capacity in demographic analysis and research. At the same time, the mission felt that efforts to create awareness of population issues would be more effective if they focused more on substantive population and development issues and less on demographic techniques.

275. Commenting on the general weakness of UNDTCD's input in the formulation of the population and development project in Niger, the mission stressed the need to establish objectives that not only fit the activities being carried out, but that also could be measured quantitatively and qualitatively and attained within a realistic time-frame. The mission further emphasized the importance of selecting an appropriate expert as chief technical adviser, as this is a major factor for a project's success.

276. Although the mission considered UNDTCD's involvement in the Cameroon census project to have been satisfactory as a whole, it questioned the advisability of adopting a universal, exhaustive enumeration approach rather than a combination of a long and a short questionnaire, since the latter would have cost much less and probably produced a higher quality of data. The mission further commented that UNDTCD had confined its role to administering the budget rather than organizing technical assistance. The mission also observed that delays in delivering equipment hindered the implementation of such key operations as cartography and data processing.

277. From its review of the performance in all four countries of the interregional project to develop demographic software, the mission concluded that many local experts were not aware of either the project or the software it had developed. Moreover, it noted that when software was available, it was seldom used. The mission called on UNDTCD to develop a better strategy to disseminate the software and related products. It also recommended that UNDTCD reconsider its current training strategies in this area, take special care in selecting suitable potential users of the software, and step up its efforts to ensure that such software was actually being used.

278. Evaluation of UNDTCD in Asia (Mission Sept. - Oct 1991). The evaluation of UNDTCD execution of UNFPA-funded projects in Asia and the Pacific focused on five country projects and one interregional project. The country projects covered two demographic training and research projects in China, one population and development project in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and one census operation in Viet Nam. The interregional project dealt with the development of demographic software for processing population data.

279. The mission found UNDTCD's performance to have been adequate and satisfactory in China and Viet Nam, but that it had left much to be desired in the DPRK. In all three countries, however, the analysis of the various projects clearly demonstrated the inherent limitations of long-distance backstopping. These included, among others, the inability to provide technical backstopping when needed, delays in the disbursement of funds and overstretched workloads of backstopping officers in terms of both travel time and number of projects backstopped. In this connection, the mission expressed support for recent UNFPA initiatives to decentralize the provision of technical assistance through the establishment of subregional country programme technical support teams (see document DP/1992/30) and to increase technical advisory staff.

280. The mission noted that levels of political commitment to population issues, the availability of local expertise and the degree of familiarity with operational procedures of international agencies differed among the countries visited. Yet, in the case of the DPRK project, the mission observed that the standard practices of UNDTCD in providing technical assistance were not flexible enough to accommodate the particular circumstances of the country. While the project design correctly identified training needs and the inputs required to establish a population centre, project implementation was hampered by such factors as the relative isolation of the DPRK, its unfamiliarity with the working of international agencies, and the effects of the United States embargo, all of which required special types of technical backstopping arrangements.

281. The mission was most impressed with the immense progress achieved in demographic training and research in China, especially since 1980 when the Government and UNFPA started collaborating in this field. The mission noted as the main factors for this development the Government's strong commitment to population issues and the important contribution of UNDTCD professional and technical assistance. In view of the importance of demographic training and research in China, the magnitude of China's needs in this area and the large number and diversity of the institutes engaged in such activities, the mission called on UNDTCD to increase and diversify its allocation of professional and technical resources to this field in China and to continue to emphasize the need to enhance the technical demographic and computer skills among staff of all institutes.

282. The mission found the technical backstopping provided by UNDTCD to the census projects in Viet Nam to have been of high quality. Other factors accounting for the success of the census operation included the strong commitment of the Government, the generally high quality of national staff, the able coordinating role assumed by the UNFPA field office in Viet Nam as well as the additional technical inputs provided to the census by ESCAP and the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

283. The demographic software project had supplied the countries visited with a variety of software options. It was found, however, that much of the software was not being used by the recipients and that many potential users had no hands-on training on how to use it. In China, for instance, the mission found that use of the software in many of the population institutes seemed quite low. Awareness of the range of softwares available from UNDTCD was also not very high. As a result, some of the institutes were developing their own software, unaware of the software options available from UNDTCD.

284. PAHO regional programme (Mission July - Aug. 1991). The mission noted that PAHO had chosen to group the identified priorities of the MCH/FP regional advisory project into a limited number of immediate objectives related to management, adolescent health and MCH/FP. This choice of three components had benefited the overall design of the regional project as it allowed for a more logical organization of work and more effective monitoring and evaluation plans.

285. Even though PAHO had been executing this project, including past phases, for nearly 10 years, PAHO project and national staff were aware of it in only two of the six countries visited. Most viewed it not as a coherent effort of assistance at the regional level but rather as isolated activities organized by PAHO. The mission noted that this lack of awareness had no doubt greatly reduced the projects' intended impact, particularly as an effective instrument to provide guidance and advice in MCH/FP at the national level.

286. Strengthening the management of MCH/FP service delivery in Latin America and the Caribbean took place mainly through actions directed at improving implementation of country project activities as well as enhancing the managerial skills of professionals working in national health systems. The mission commended the high level of technical instruction of the interregional courses in management organized under the auspices of the regional project. However, for some of the countries with health systems that lacked the infrastructure needed to operate a more elaborate management system, the mission found the courses to be too sophisticated.

287. The mission considered the PAHO regional project to have played an important role in stimulating government interest in addressing the special health needs of adolescents. However, the mission found that the regional project's degree of involvement in problems related to adolescent reproductive health varied greatly in the countries visited. One main constraint, which may have hindered Governments' acceptance of

adolescent health programmes, was a dearth of research assessing the impact of specific interventions in reducing such critical demographic indicators as adolescent pregnancy rates and the prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases.

288. The mission, noting that family planning in the Latin American and Caribbean region was usually understood within the context of maternal and child health rather than as a demographic intervention, stressed the need to tailor family planning programmes to accommodate the socio-cultural diversity of the many population groups that inhabit the region. The mission also underscored the importance of epidemiological and demographic indicators to monitor the development of MCH/FP services. It commented that the lack of such data combined with a dearth of sound socio-cultural and behavioural data on the target populations for MCH/FP programmes had seriously undermined the success of family planning interventions.

289. SEARO regional programme (Mission Oct. - Nov. 1991). The mission noted with satisfaction that, on the whole, the collaboration between UNFPA and SEARO had significantly benefited the countries of the region by making use of SEARO's ample range of specialized technical capacities and the WHO global network to execute UNFPA-funded projects.

290. Overall, the regional team was found to have performed satisfactorily, undertaking activities consistent with the objectives of the project. Operational research and technical assistance activities were the main areas of action. SEARO-sponsored intercountry workshops were well appreciated and resulted in follow-up activities by participant countries. Furthermore, in spite of difficulties in recruiting staff for long-term posts, SEARO had adequately covered efforts to develop management information systems through use of short-term consultancies. However, the mission identified shortcomings in the overall management of the regional project as a major weakness. The mission also stressed the need to give more attention to such areas as training, transfer of technology, and adolescent health care.

291. On SEARO's effectiveness in executing UNFPA-funded country projects, the mission noted that various administrative procedures of SEARO did not meet UNFPA requirements, in particular those covering the purchase and supply of contraceptives and contraceptive equipment. The mission, therefore, recommended that SEARO review its procurement procedures in order to ensure the prompt and adequate supply of such items, given that they are vital to the success of family planning programmes. The mission further noted that neither SEARO nor the responsible parties in UNFPA had given adequate attention to technical assistance in the area of project management and monitoring. It also found various instances of inadequate reporting on project progress and a general lack of adequate communication between executing and funding agencies.

E. Preparations for the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development

292. In 1989, the Economic and Social Council decided, "in principle, to convene in 1994, under the auspices of the United Nations, an international meeting on population". At its 1991 summer session, ECOSOC adopted the draft resolution on the meeting, which was proposed by the Preparatory Committee of the Conference. In that resolution (1991/93) it was decided, inter alia, to call the meeting the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and to pursue six main objectives.

293. ECOSOC defined those objectives as: (a) to review and to appraise the World Population Plan of Action; (b) to identify means for operationalizing the Plan; (c) to increase awareness on population issues;

(d) to consider the desired focus of intensified action at the global, regional and national levels; (e) to adopt recommendations for the next decade; and (f) to mobilize resources.

294. The resolution also underscored the overall themes of the Conference as being "population, sustained growth and sustainable development", while the major issues would include: (a) population growth and demographic structure; (b) population, the environment and development; (c) population policies and programmes; (d) population distribution and migration; (e) population and women; and (f) family planning, health and family well-being.

295. ECOSOC authorized the Secretary-General of the Conference to convene six expert group meetings to deal with these major issues in order to provide a substantive basis for reassessing the World Population Plan of Action, to address the issues of the coming decade as well as to suggest recommendations.

296. The Secretary-General of the Conference scheduled expert group meetings as follows: (a) Population, the Environment and Development, New York, 20 - 24 January, 1992; (b) Population Policies and Programmes, Cairo, Egypt, 12-16 April 1992; (c) Population and Women, Gaborone, Botswana, 22-26 June 1992; (d) Family Planning, Health and Family Well-Being, Bangalore, India, 26-30 October 1992; (e) Population Growth and Structure, Paris, France, 16-20 November 1992; and (f) Population Distribution and Migration, Lima, Peru, 18-22 January, 1993.

297. The regional commissions were invited by ECOSOC to convene regional preparatory meetings for the Conference. These meetings are tentatively scheduled as follows: (a) Asia and the Pacific, Denpasar, Indonesia, 19-27 August, 1992; (b) Africa, Dakar, Senegal, November, 1992; (c) Europe and North America, Geneva, Switzerland, 23-26 March 1993; (d) Arab States, site to be determined, April, 1993; and (e) Latin America and the Caribbean, site and dates to be determined, 1993.

298. With regard to its organizational aspects, the ICPD will not have a separate secretariat. Instead, the Conference will draw on existing resources, in particular those of UNFPA and DIESA. Dr. Nafis Sadik, the Executive Director of UNFPA, has been appointed Secretary-General for the Conference.

299. To ensure appropriate interagency participation and coordination, an ad hoc task force has been established for the Conference by the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination (ACC). An informal meeting of the task force was scheduled to be held at the United Nations in New York on 27 January 1992, and the first formal session is to be convened in July 1992.

300. The Conference's Preparatory Committee has scheduled sessions for August 1993, to discuss the results and recommendations of the expert group meetings, and for February 1994, to adopt the documentation for the Conference.

301. The venue as well as the dates for the Conference will be decided by the Economic and Social Council at a later date.

F. Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries

302. UNFPA has continued to support and promote TCDC in the field of population and development, making special efforts to strengthen training and research activities in the following fields: demography; integration of population factors in national development plans; MCH/FP programme management and service

delivery; and women, population and development. In 1991, UNFPA submitted a report on TCDC activities to the biennial meeting of the United Nations High-Level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries.

303. More than 300 people participated in UNFPA-funded TCDC training schemes throughout Asia in the course of 1991. In India, for example, the Centre for Development Studies in Trivandrum and the Indian Institute of Population Sciences in Bombay continued to offer, with UNFPA's assistance, highly successful training programmes in population and development and in demography, bringing together trainees and experts from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Meantime, Indonesia's National Family Planning Co-ordinating Board and the Republic of Korea's Institute of Population and Health continued to provide training on an annual basis to approximately 55 trainees from elsewhere in the region. The Omani Trust Fund, with UNFPA assistance, helped finance the cost of training of Omani Population and Housing Census personnel in Bahrain. TCDC-oriented training was also supported in Jordan, Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. PROFAMILIA, a NGO in Colombia, served as a regional centre for training in voluntary surgical contraception methods, while Colombian data-processing technicians and regional planning officials went to other Latin American countries for training. In Africa, staff of the demographic unit in the University of Lesotho visited similar units in Botswana and Swaziland.

304. Important regional and global centres whose training activities feature a TCDC component include: the Cairo Demographic Centre in Egypt; the recently-launched population and development training programme for Spanish-speakers, based in Chile; and the Centre for Development and Regional Planning (CEDEPLAR) at Brazil's Federal University of Minas Gerais, providing training to students from Africa's lusophone countries.

305. UNFPA has systematically encouraged research opportunities for TCDC, supporting, for example, the PAPCHILD survey, in cooperation with AGFUND and the League of Arab States. Another important initiative, the South Asia Study, with its focus on Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan, highlighted the lessons learned and identified facilitating and constraining factors from individual country programmes, in addition to indicating ways in which countries of the region could benefit from exchanges of programme experience. In Latin America, Honduran and Colombian experts provided research support to design socio-demographic indicators for important studies in Costa Rica. Similarly, a database for El Salvador's Population Secretariat was developed with the assistance of experts from Costa Rica.

306. UNFPA has continued to promote the utilization of the capacities of developing country institutions and expertise. Local contraceptive production facilities were set up in India, Indonesia and Viet Nam, with UNFPA assistance. The Indian Institute of Technology has been involved in contraceptive testing and quality control. UNFPA made use of consultants from China to train medical staff in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in designing clinical studies for contraceptive research; an expert from Mexico helped devise quality-control measures at a Cuban contraceptive production plant. Developing country institutions and expertise are also being used extensively by the Fund in its PRSD exercises and in the design and evaluation of UNFPA-assisted projects. In Africa, regional training seminars on programme review and strategy development were attended by experts and programme personnel from Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland and Zambia.

307. During 1990-1991, UNFPA assisted a large number of meetings, seminars and workshops which helped to identify, formulate and implement operational TCDC activities. Examples include: the African Regional Conference on Options for Better Life for Young Women, organized by the Family Planning

Association of Kenya in cooperation with CEDPA; a regional conference on the Safe Motherhood initiative held in Morocco and attended by participants from five Maghreb countries; a regional training workshop in community participation techniques for female family planning programme managers and IEC workers, organized by the Planned Parenthood Federation of the Republic of Korea; and interregional training workshops and study tours on family planning programme management, organized by the International Council on the Management of Population Programmes (ICOMP). In addition, training for African journalists in population and development issues has been provided through the Inter Press Service.

308. In the context of issues relating to women, population and development, a series of case studies were conducted in Kenya, Malaysia and Mexico to study the effect of environmental degradation on women's work and their health status. Comparative research studies were conducted in Ghana, Jamaica, and the Philippines on "Family Structure, Female Headship and Poverty". Training materials advocating the prevention of female circumcision were developed in Ethiopia, Gambia, Nigeria and Sudan.

309. Some countries have begun to earmark major commitments to TCDC from their country programmes. The sixth country programme of Thailand is a case in point, with 20 per cent of programme resources assigned to mainly operational TCDC activities.

310. UNFPA initiated arrangements in 1991 to access the UNDP database to TCDC known as INRES SOUTH, using a local area network. UNFPA is now developing a comprehensive population-related database on national institutions and consultants.

G. Procurement of equipment and supplies

311. In 1991, UNFPA's total procurement amounted to $31.1 million, an increase of approximately 6 per cent compared to the $29.3 million in 1990. The procurement activities covered the following main categories:

	US$
Headquarters procurement for UNFPA and government-executed projects/project components	26,991,622
Local procurement (including authorizations from headquarters)	1,024,518
Publications and audio-visual services	1,251,634
Headquarters procurement for administrative purposes	1,818,073
TOTAL:	31,085,847

312. As in previous years, the Fund continued to procure contraceptives on behalf of other funding organizations. The value of such contraceptive commodities, approximately $12 million, is reflected in the

$26.9 million noted above against headquarters procurement for UNFPA and government-executed projects/project components. In view of UNFPA's excellent contacts with major contraceptive manufacturers, the number of multilateral and bilateral organizations requesting UNFPA to procure contraceptives on their behalf again increased. The greater volume enabled the Fund to get better prices for contraceptives, which in turn benefited UNFPA's other projects.

313. Since it is the Fund's practice to purchase contraceptives on the basis of long-term agreements, prices paid for contraceptives remained stable in 1991. The contraceptives procured through such agreements are normally paid for in U.S. dollars. Since the majority of the Fund's contraceptive suppliers are located outside the United States, the cost of such commodities to UNFPA is contingent on the strength of U.S. currency vis-a-vis the currency of the country in which most of the commodities are purchased.

314. In accordance with the recommendations of the Governing Council, UNFPA continued to strive to increase procurement of equipment and supplies from developing countries. In addition to local procurements made by field offices amounting to $1 million, the Fund placed orders for a total of $1.9 million directly with companies in developing countries. Furthermore, through increased discretionary procurement authority to its field offices, the Fund is encouraging field offices to use local and regional suppliers.

315. During 1991, procurement from Canada, the Netherlands and the Nordic countries totalled approximately $2.3 million.

316. As in recent years, in order to ensure accurate accounting of procurement transactions and to provide a clear delineation of commitments and responsibilities, UNFPA's procurement on behalf of government-executed projects has been tabulated as UNFPA-executed project components and thus is included in the total amount for UNFPA procurement.

317. Major commodities purchased by UNFPA's Procurement Unit in 1991 were:

	$ 000	
	1991	1990
Medical equipment	3,078	6,164
Oral contraceptive tablets	12,912	7,602
Contraceptive injectables	4,751	3,597
Contraceptive intra-uterine devices	885	1,073
Contraceptive implants	477	115
Condoms	1,873	2,846
Vaginal contraceptive tablets	423	512
Audio-visual equipment	375	695
Computer equipment and supplies	1,710	1,203
Office equipment	781	854
Printing	988	758
Vehicles	1,870	1,922
Miscellaneous	963	2,026
TOTAL:	31,086	29,367

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H. Multi-bilateral funding of population activities

318. While the major focus of UNFPA's resource mobilization campaign in 1991 continued to be increasing contributions to the Fund's regular resources, the Executive Director stressed the urgent need to increase resources for population programmes through the Fund's multi-bilateral programme. The basic idea of multi-bilateral assistance is to provide bilateral donors with a multilateral channel through which additional assistance can be directed to support specific projects in a range of specific recipient countries. Multi-bilateral funding can come from either the donor's multilateral or bilateral development assistance budgets or both.

319. In 1991, the Netherlands, Norway and Canada -- in addition to being among the major contributors to UNFPA's regular resources -- were the main contributors to the Fund's multi-bilateral programme, with Sweden, Australia and Belgium also giving substantial support to both UNFPA's regular and multi-bilateral programmes. Finland and the United Kingdom also provided some assistance through multi-bilateral arrangements.

320. There are currently over 40 multi-bilateral projects, with total contributions for 1991 of approximately $8 million, being carried out in over 17 developing countries. For example, the Netherlands is assisting population censuses in Benin, Guinea-Bissau and Rwanda; Norway is supporting MCH/FP activities in Nicaragua and the United Republic of Tanzania; Canada is providing assistance to a number of projects in Kenya; and Sweden is giving multi-bilateral funds for a census in Bolivia.

321. Regular consultations are now being held with the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom. Moreover, Germany has expressed interest in establishing stronger ties with UNFPA in making use of multi-bilateral arrangements.

322. In January 1992, UNFPA submitted to its donors a list of 90 multi-bilateral proposals for 1992 with total budgetary requirements of approximately $70 million.